

As its name implies, the horseshoe-shaped, creamy-yellow mark on the elytra is characteristic of this species, although coloration of the rest of the elytra and pronotum appears to show considerable variation. The ground colour may range from black to a chestnut-brown and a second, less distinct, arc is variably developed posterior and lateral to the main arc. The centre of the pronotum may be black with lateral margins yellow, or the black may be restricted to the hind margin and a few central spots. The head is dark with legs and antennae yellow. The whole body, particularly the elytra, is covered with a short, fine, dense pubescence.— R. COLIN WELCH, The Mathom House, Hemington, Peterborough PE8 6QJ & MARTIN R. JUKES, Forest Research, Alice Holt Lodge, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4LH.

Update of early emergences of moths at Selborne

I have written before of the tendency towards early emergences of moths at Selborne in 1992-94 (Aston, *Ent. Rec.* **106**: 116; **107**: 4; **107**: 191; **110**: 54 and **110**: 189). This table now permits comparison with my earliest records of spring species in 1995-1997. The m.v. light was run on just over 320 nights during each year of the survey. In a few cases, the first spring specimen was observed during the preceding December: for example, the first *Apocheima pilosaria* of 1996 is taken to be that seen on 12 December 1995. In eight of these species, earliness for this site is either maintained or increased.

Species	1995-1997	1992-1994	MBGBI imago
1926 <i>Apocheima pilosaria</i> (D.&S.)	12 Dec 1995	26 Dec 1992	Jan-Mar
2190 <i>Orthosia gothica</i> (L.)	12 Dec 1994	29 Jan 1993	Mar-May
1932 <i>Agriopis leucophaearia</i> (D.&S.)	14 Jan 1995	29 Jan 1993	Feb, Mar
1960 <i>Theria primaria</i> (Haw.)	18 Jan 1995	9 Jan 1994	Jan, Feb
2243 <i>Xylocampa areola</i> (Esper)	19 Jan 1996	2 Mar 1992	Mar-May
1934 <i>Agriopis marginaria</i> (Fabr.)	1 Feb 1995	10 Feb 1994	Feb-May
2187 <i>Orthosia cerasi</i> (Fabr.)	7 Feb 1995	8 Feb 1994	Mar-May
1663 <i>Alsophila aescularia</i> (D.&S.)	12 Feb 1995	4 Feb 1994	Mar, Apr
1930 <i>Biston strataria</i> (Hufn.)	15 Feb 1995	4 Feb 1994	Mar, Apr
1947 <i>Ectropis bistortata</i> (Goeze)	20 Feb 1995	7 Mar 1994	Mar, Apr
1746 <i>Anticlea badiata</i> (D.&S.)	21 Feb 1995	27 Feb 1994	Mar, Apr
2182 <i>Orthosia cruda</i> (D.&S.)	27 Feb 1995	17 Feb 1993	Mar, Apr